

CLAIMS

What is claimed as being new and desired to be protected by LETTERS PATENT of the United States is as follows:

1. Separable two-component drinking systems for facilitating the separation, stacking and storing of pluralities of components of drinking vessels such as yards of ale comprising, in combination:

an upper component having an upper end and a lower end with an inwardly tapering side wall of continuously varying concavity there between, the upper component having a cylindrical lower axial extension at its lower end, the side wall and the lower extension having a common central axis, the side wall having a lower end with the lower extension joining to form a shoulder, the side wall having a continuous curve along its length with the upper end having a diameter greater than the lower end and with a tangent of the side wall being closer to perpendicular to the central axis the closer to the upper end and with a tangent of the side wall being closer to parallel to the central axis the closer to the lower end; and

a lower component having an upper end and a lower end with a generally annular lateral extension there between, the upper end of the lower component having an upper aperture with a diameter essentially equal to the diameter of the axial extension for the receipt of the axial extension during use, the lower end of the

lower component having a lower aperture with a diameter greater than the diameter of the upper aperture, the upper aperture adapted to receive the axial extension up to the shoulder, the system including the lower component and the upper component sharing the same common central axis when coupled for use,

the width of the system varies from about one fifth to one eighteenth of its height, the heights being measure axially along the length of the central axis, and

a plurality of upper components adapted to have their lower ends received within the upper ends of adjacent upper components one within another for stacking purposes as for storage and transportation and a plurality of lower components adapted to have their upper ends received within the lower ends of adjacent lower components one within another for stacking storage and transportation.

2. A separable two-component drinking system comprising:
 - an upper component with a tapering side wall and a cylindrical lower axial extension, the side wall and the lower extension having a common central axis; and
 - a lower component with a generally annular lateral extension and an upper aperture for the receipt of the axial extension during use, the lower component and the upper component sharing the same common central axis when coupled for use.

3. The system as set forth in claim 2 wherein the width of the system varies from about one fifth to one eighteenth of its height.

4. The system as set forth in claim 2 wherein the side wall is inwardly tapering and of continuously varying concavity.

5. The system as set forth in claim 2 wherein the axial extension is of a short length.

6. The system as set forth in claim 2 wherein the upper component has a lower end with an axial extension which is of an extended length terminating in a rib of a slightly larger diameter than the axial extension and the lower component has an upper end with an upper aperture and a lower end with a lower aperture and an annular lateral extension there between, the apertures of the upper and lower ends being essentially equal for the receipt of the axial extension by the upper and lower apertures.

7. The system as set forth in claim 2 wherein the upper component has a lower axial extension of an extended length and the lower component has a lower aperture in the bottom for receiving the lower axial extension and the lower aperture is configured to contact only a portion of the circumference of the lower axial extension.

8. The system as set forth in claim 2 wherein the upper component has a frustoconical lower axial extension of an

extended length and the lower component has a frustoconical pocket for receiving the extension.

9. The system as set forth in claim 8 wherein the extension and the pocket are smooth.

10. The system as set forth in claim 8 wherein the extension and the pocket are formed with mating teeth.

11. The system as set forth in claim 2 wherein the upper component has a lower axial extension of an extended length and the lower component has a lower aperture in the bottom for receiving the lower axial extension and the extension is formed with at least one outwardly extending rib.

12. The system as set forth in claim 11 where the rib is circumferential.

13. The system as set forth in claim 11 where the rib includes a plurality of essentially axially extending ribs.

14. The system as set forth in claim 2 wherein the extension and the lower component are each formed with screw threads for removably coupling the upper component and lower component.